0. INTRODUCTION.

This paper is a phonemic statement of the Boiken language. This language is a member of the Ndu language family. It is located in the East Sepik District. Yangoru is the chief patrol post. The area comprising this language group is from the Pacific Ocean on the north to the Sepik Plains on the south. The Prince Alexander Mountains are in the center of the group. On the west it is bordered by the Maprik and Arapesh language groups and its eastern boundary extends almost to Wewak.

The language group has a number of dialects. I resided in the village of Kwahwie in the eastern dialect, about 3 miles south of Yangoru. The corpus of data used for this paper was acquired from Demon, a 30 year old citizen of Kwahwie village. He is married and has 3 children. He has had one year of schooling, has worked on a plantation in Rabaul for two years and has done some work in Wewak. He is now an involved resident citizen of Kwahwie.

The number of Boiken speakers is said to exceed 17,000. The dialect on which this paper is based has approximately 7500 speakers. The majority of people of this language group live on the southern flank of the Prince Alexander Range.

The information was gathered while living in Kwahwie village between 1968 and 1973.

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